Appl No. 10/517,873

Response Dated Tuesday, January 22, 2008

Reply to the Office action of July 20, 2007 and December 28, 2007 Advisory

## Amendments to the Claims:

Kindly amend claim 6 and add claim 12 as indicated in the listing below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 5 (Canceled)

Claim 6 (Currently amended): A herbicidal composition for controlling weeds in maize comprising:

- (i) a herbicidally effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of 2-(2'nitro-4'methylsulphonylbenzoyl)-1,3-cyclohexanedione, 2-(2'-nitro-4'-methylsulphonylbenzoyl)-1,3-cyclohexanedione, 2-(2'-chloro-4'-methylsulphonylbenzoyl)-1,3-cyclohexanedione, 4,4-dimethyl-2-(4-methanesulphonyl-2-nitrobenzoyl)-1,3-cyclohexanedione, 2-(2-chloro-3-ethoxy-4-methanesulphonylbenzoyl)-5-methyl-1,3-cyclohexanedione; and
- (iii) an organic <del>phosphato,</del> phosphonate or phosphinate adjuvant at a concentration of less than 0.5% w/v \*/+/-.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): A herbicidal composition according to claim 6, wherein the pheephate, phosphonate or phosphinate adjuvant is a compound of formula II

wherein  $R^{11}$  is an alkoxy group containing from 4 to 20 carbon atoms or a group -[OCH<sub>2</sub>CHR<sup>14</sup>]<sub>r</sub>-OR<sup>15</sup> wherein  $R^{14}$  is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl, t is from 0 to 50 and  $R^{15}$  is hydrogen or an alkyl group containing from 1 to 20 carbon atoms; and  $R^{12}$  and  $R^{13}$  are independently (i) an alkyl or alkenyl group containing from 4 to 20 carbon atoms; (ii) optionally substituted phenyl; (iii) an alkoxy group containing from 4 to 20 carbon atoms or (iv) a group -[OCH<sub>2</sub>CHR<sup>14</sup>]<sub>r</sub>-OR<sup>15</sup> as herein defined; or (v) a group of formula (III)

$$H_3C$$
 $C$ 
 $P$ 
 $R16$ 
 $R16$ 
 $R16$ 

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wherein R<sup>16</sup> is an alkoxy group containing from 4 to 20 carbon atoms or a group
-[OCH<sub>2</sub>CHR<sup>14</sup>]<sub>r</sub>·OR<sup>15</sup> as herein defined and R<sup>17</sup> is an alkyl group containing from 4 to 20 carbon atoms, optionally substituted phenyl, an alkoxy group containing from 4 to 20 carbon atoms or a group -[OCH<sub>2</sub>CHR<sup>14</sup>]<sub>r</sub>-OR<sup>15</sup> as herein defined; and wherein t is from 0 to ten.

Claim 8 (Canceled)

Claim 9 (Original) A herbicidal composition according to claim 7, wherein the compound of formula (II) is a phosphonate in which R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> are both independently alkoxy groups and R<sup>13</sup> is an alkyl, alkenyl or optionally substituted phenyl group.

Claim 10 (Original) A herbicidal composition according to claim 7, wherein the compound of formula (II) is a phosphinate in which R<sup>11</sup> is an alkoxy group and R<sup>12</sup> and R<sup>13</sup> are both independently an alkyl, alkenyl or optionally substituted phenyl group.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn) A process for the control of weeds, said process comprising applying to the locus of the weeds a herbicidally effective amount of a composition as claimed in claim 6.

Claim 12 (New) A herbicidal composition according to claim 9, wherein the compound of formula (II) is (bis(2-ethylhexyl)-2-ethylhexylphosphonate).